

Amendments to the Claims:

The present amendment replies to a Non-Final Office Action mailed September 7, 2005. Claims 34-36 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 1-9 were previously canceled and claims 10-33 were previously withdrawn. Dependent claims 37-41 are added herein. In the Non-Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 34-36 on various grounds. The Applicant responds to each ground of rejection as subsequently recited herein and requests reconsideration of the present application. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-9 (canceled)

Claim 10-33 (withdrawn)

Claim 34 (previously presented): A stent assembly for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a stent; and

a plurality of bands circumferentially wrapped around the stent, the width of each of the bands being substantially less than the diameter of the stent;

wherein the bands further comprise a polymer containing a therapeutic agent, the bands elastically gripping the stent; and

wherein individual bands of the plurality of bands contain different therapeutic agents.

Claim 35 (previously presented): A stent assembly for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a stent; and

a plurality of bands circumferentially wrapped around the stent, the width of each of the bands being substantially less than the diameter of the stent;

wherein the bands further comprise a polymer containing a therapeutic agent, the bands elastically gripping the stent; and

wherein individual bands of the plurality of bands are made of different polymers.

Claim 36 (previously presented): A stent assembly for implantation in a body lumen comprising:

a stent; and

at least one band circumferentially wrapped around the stent, the width of the band being substantially less than the diameter of the stent;

wherein the band further comprises a polymer containing a therapeutic agent, the band elastically gripping the stent; and

wherein the band further comprises a first layer and a second layer, the first layer located circumferentially around the stent, and the second layer attached circumferentially around the first layer.

Claim 37 (new): The stent assembly of claim 34 wherein the plurality of bands includes at least a first band and a second band, the first band containing a first therapeutic agent and the second band containing a second therapeutic agent, the first therapeutic agent being different than the second therapeutic agent.

Claim 38 (new): The stent assembly of claim 37 wherein the stent has a proximal portion and a distal portion, the first band being disposed on the proximal portion and the second band being disposed on the distal portion.

Claim 39 (new): The stent assembly of claim 35 wherein the plurality of bands includes at least a first band and a second band, the first band being made of a first polymer and the second band being made of a second polymer, the first polymer being different than the second polymer.

Claim 40 (new): The stent assembly of claim 36 wherein the polymer comprises a first polymer and a second polymer, the first polymer being different than the second polymer, the first layer being made of the first polymer and the second layer being made of the second polymer.

Claim 41 (new): The stent assembly of claim 36 wherein the therapeutic agent comprises a first therapeutic agent and a second therapeutic agent, the first therapeutic agent being different than the second therapeutic agent, the first layer containing the first therapeutic agent and the second layer containing the second therapeutic agent.